

## Weekly Status & Information Report: April 23 - 27, 2012

### 1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of April 30, 2012:

- City Council meeting, Monday, April 30, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- City Council budget work session, Thursday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

All meetings are held in the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, and are open to the public unless noted otherwise. *(City Clerk)*

**2. Budget Public Hearings on Monday:** The City Council will hold two public hearings at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2012 in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue. The public is encouraged to attend and sign up to speak or send comments to [Clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:Clerk@takomagov.org). Persons with questions regarding these hearings may call Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at 301-891-7267 or email [Clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:Clerk@takomagov.org) for further information. *(City Clerk)*

**3. FY 2013 Proposed Real Property Tax Increase Public Hearing:** The real property tax rate is proposed to remain at \$0.58 per \$100 of assessment, which is above the constant yield tax rate of \$0.5715. The proposed tax rate is 1.5% higher than the constant yield rate and will generate \$169,329 in additional property tax revenues. The complete required notice is available online at <http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/notices/index.html>. *(City Clerk)*

**4. FY 2013 Proposed Budget Public Hearing:** The City Council will hold a public hearing to hear comments on the proposed FY 2013 budget. The proposed budget is available for review in the Library and online at <http://takomaparkmd.gov/finance/budget.html>. *(City Clerk)*

5. Bike Rodeos and Crosswalk Simulation: This week the Safe Routes program offered four Bike Rodeos at Rolling Terrace Elementary School. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**6. "Gear Up!"** On April 28, the Takoma Park Police Department will be hosting the "Gear Up" Takoma community event from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue - rear parking lot). It will be a fun-filled day where citizens (adults and children alike!) can bring their bicycles, scooters, and skateboards to ride through some safety obstacle courses and participation in the City's Safe Routes to School program's popular crosswalk simulation activity. All ages welcome! There will also be a: - bicycle maintenance workshop, car seat workshop, helmet fitting, a raffle for several helmets, and light refreshments. New this year is a donation site for any unused or unwanted bicycle and bicycle parts (which will be donated to less fortunate areas in other countries). Partnerships for the event include Takoma Park Safe Routes to School, The Green Commuter, Takoma Bicycle, Montgomery County Safe Kids Program and Bikes for the World. Any questions, please contact Officer Carla Magnaye at [carlam@takomagov.org](mailto:carlam@takomagov.org). While rain is in the forecast, plan on coming out to "Gear Up" - the bad weather is not expected to move in until later in the afternoon! *(Police)*

7. Drug Take-Back Day, April 28: On Saturday, the Takoma Park Police Department will once again participate in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This campaign gives the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your prescriptions to the Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Avenue. Collection boxes will be set up at the event in the rear parking lot of the community center. Prescription, over-the-counter and pet medications will be accepted. The service is free and anonymous – no questions asked. *(More information is in the community advisory that has been circulated).* *(Police)*

8. "Dia!" Join us this Saturday, April 28, from 10:30 p.m. until noon for our 5th annual Dia Day celebration of kids, books and multiculturalism. There will be very special Circle Time and craft program. All are welcome! Registration is encouraged to ensure we will have enough craft supplies for all. Funded through the Friends of Library. *(Library)*

9. Artist in Residence Opportunity: The City of Takoma Parks Arts and Humanities Commission is soliciting applications for its first Recycling Artist-in-Residence Program. Artists working with re-cycled materials are encouraged to apply for this new two-month summer residency. Application deadline is this Monday, April 30. For more information <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/>. For more information, contact Sara Anne Daines at [SaraD@takomagov.org](mailto:SaraD@takomagov.org). *(Housing and Community Development)*

10. Exhibitions Director Applications: The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking an individual to coordinate the Takoma Park Community Center exhibits program beginning July 1. The Exhibits Director serves as the key point of contact for the exhibits program, soliciting and reviewing proposals, and assisting exhibitors in logistical activities. Application deadline is this Monday, April 30. For more information and a copy of the application packet, contact Sara Anne Daines at [SaraD@takomagov.org](mailto:SaraD@takomagov.org). *(Housing and Community Development)*

11. La Rondinella in Concert, May 5: We are Takoma is pleased to offer the sephardic music of La Rondinella on Saturday, May 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Auditorium. La Rondinella is known for "the care and spirit of their performances, particularly in those pieces that give a sense of longing and wandering, reflective of that of the Sephardim" - the Spanish Jews displaced from their homeland, the Iberian Peninsula, in the 15th century. For more information, check out our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events](http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events) *(Housing and Community Development)*

12. Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge, May 6: Join the 462 runners who have already signed up to run or walk on Sunday, May 6! Online registration closes Thursday, May 3. Late registration at Packet Pick Up, City Sports Silver Spring, 8510

Fenton St., Saturday, May 5, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on race day starting at 7 a.m. at the Community Center. (Housing and Community Development)

13. National Bike to School Day, May 9: Safe Routes will pilot a Bike to School Day event at Piney Branch ES. Students, parents and staff will meet at the Franklin Apartment's parking lot at approximately 9 a.m. for a Police escorted ride to Piney Branch Elementary School. They will be met by their non-riding peers for an assembly including remarks by Mayor Williams, Montgomery County Councilmember Hans Riemer and a representative from the TPPD. (Housing and Community Development)

**14. Bike-In Movie Night, May 11:** Looking for something exciting the entire family can do? Well, look no further because the Takoma Park Recreation Department will be hosting a movie night in the park on Friday, May 11. Bring the whole family out for a night of fun and community; don't forget to ride your bike to help reduce our carbon footprint! This free event is open to all ages. Event will be held at Lee Jordan Field (Behind Takoma Park Middle School), 7611 Piney branch Road, Takoma Park MD. Seating will begin at 8:00 p.m. and the movie will begin playing at dusk. Event is co-sponsored by the Housing &Community Development Department and the Takoma Park Police department. For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284 or [LewM@takomagov.org](mailto:LewM@takomagov.org). (Recreation)

15. Register for Bike To Work Day - May 18: Join over 10,000 bicycle commuters in the Washington region on May 18. Takoma Park is joining the network this year with three 'pit stops' in the City: at the Old Town Gazebo, on Sligo Creek Trail, and at the Takoma/Langley Crossroads. Whether traveling to work, school, or Metro, anyone commuting by bike the morning of May 18 can participate in this free event. All registrants get a free t-shirt at their pit stop, are treated to refreshments, and entered to win prizes like bikes and messenger bags. Learn more about the event and register at [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org). (Housing and Community Development)

16. Ongoing Exhibits at the Takoma Park Community Center: Stop by next week for the art! In the Atrium Gallery, Harry Stone's "H@ndymen", paintings with a work, art, and cultural theme. In the Dempsey Gallery, "Petal and Leaf", the exquisite nature photography of Coriolana Simon and Douglas Wolters. And, in Gallery 3, "Feather Fancy" which show cases the unique, delicate feather art of Russian artist Galina Kolosovskaya. (Housing and Community Development)

17. Draft New Ave Streetscape Standards: The New Hampshire Avenue Streetscape Standards will set the look, tone, and feel of our community, and change how people walk, bike, get to the bus, and do their shopping on the New Ave. A draft of the Standards is posted for public comment on the New Ave website: [www.thenewave.com/development/projects/streetscape-standards](http://www.thenewave.com/development/projects/streetscape-standards) Residents and business owners on the corridor are encouraged to review the Standards and send their feedback to [ErkinO@takomagov.org](mailto:ErkinO@takomagov.org). (Housing and Community Development)

18. Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan Approved: Montgomery County Council unanimously approved the Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan on April 24. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the conversation and development of the document. The Sector Plan will have a lasting impact on The New Hampshire Avenue Corridor and Takoma Langley Crossroads area. (Housing and Community Development)

19. Sidewalk Repairs and Street Improvements: Sidewalk repairs will be completed on Holly Avenue this week. Next week major repair work will start on Manor Circle. The City's contractor will be repairing sections of the sidewalk to comply with accessibility requirements. In addition, the contractor will also be replacing broken curb and gutter in preparation for the repaving of most of Manor Circle and the access roads. Residents on Manor Circle have received a notice of the planned work. (Public Works)

**20. Award Winner - Finance Department:** The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Takoma Park by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. The award has been presented, as is the practice of the GFOA, to Yovonda D. Brooks, CPA, Director of Finance and Barbara B. Matthews, City Manager, the individuals designated by the City as primarily responsible for preparing the CAFR. This is the sixth consecutive year that the City has received this prestigious award. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR. The GFOA is a non-profit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago and Washington, DC. (Finance Department)

**21. Fall 2012 Class Proposals - Instructors needed:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department is looking for qualified contractors to instruct professional quality classes for all ages this fall. Interested individuals should submit a resume and class proposal no later than Thursday, May 24 to [LewM@takomagov.org](mailto:LewM@takomagov.org). Proposals submitted after the due date will not be reviewed. For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at [LewM@takomagov.org](mailto:LewM@takomagov.org) or 301-891-7284. (Recreation)

**22. Summer Camp Registration:** Parents, before you know it school will be out and the Recreation Department has just the solution for you, CAMP!! Our camps will stimulate and enrich your child's mind during the summer months. We offer a variety of camps that specialize in dance, art, music, theater, video production, sports, science, fitness and more. Register for your favorite summer camp today as many camps are already full. To view our camp offerings online please visit: [www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation). For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at 301-891-7284 or

[LewM@takomagov.org](mailto:LewM@takomagov.org). (Recreation)

**23. Tennis Clinics Are Almost Full:** This FUN and exciting program gives youth the opportunity to learn and nurture their tennis skills. Our goal is to use tennis as a tool that supports and enhances your child's personal growth, physical health and academic achievement. This five-week program is for children ages: 7-9 & ages: 10 - 13. Tuesdays, May 8 - June 5. (Recreation)

**24. Girls Lacrosse Clinic to Begin Soon:** Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in the area and this popular program is great for anyone who wants to learn the sport. The clinic will emphasize skill development in shooting, passing, catching and field alignments. This five-week clinic will also cover basic rules and interpretations of the game. Lacrosse sticks will be provided. No experience is required! Girls ages 8 to 11 years. Wednesdays, May 16 to June 13 from 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., T.P. City Residents \$25, Non-Residents \$35. (Recreation)

**25. Double Dutch Continues:** Double Dutch is a fun and aerobic endurance workout that includes single rope jumping, double Dutch turning, jumping stretching and jogging. This program is held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for ages 6-14 under the direction of Erica Perry. Come on out and enjoy the fun. For more information, contact John Webster at 301-891-7289. (Recreation)

**26. Learn How to Play Chess:** Chess is taught at Takoma Park Recreation Center by Jim Baxter on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. for youth ages 6-17. This is a fun game that teaches responsibility, improves discipline and sharpens thinking skills. Through the efforts of Mr. Baxter, participants identify the chessmen, familiarize themselves with the board, and learn the various moves and chess terminology. For more information contact John Webster at 301-891-7289. (Recreation)

**26. Officers in Meetings:** On April 26-27, Chief Ricucci attended the Professional Executive Research Forum (PERF) annual meeting. (Police)

**27. Officers in Training:**

- On April 22, Pfc. Villegas attended training entitled "MD XI Top Gun" in Indiantown Gap, Annville, Pennsylvania.
- On April 23-24, Pfc. Magnaye attended a two-day Crime Prevention Symposium at the University of Maryland Inn & Conference Center in Adelphi, Maryland.
- On April 26, Sgt. Gilbert, Cpl. Pedersen and Pvt. Sims attended training entitled "CHAMP – Child Maltreatment Training" at the MPCTC Public Safety & Educational Training Center in Sykesville, Maryland.
- On April 27, Sgt. Gilbert attended a Mass Disruption Behavioral Health Conference at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in North Bethesda, Maryland. (Police)

**28. Community Outreach Officer:** Community Outreach Officer Carla Magnaye participated in the following activities: V.I.N. Etching/Watch Your Car, Safe Routes to School, and Eastern Middle School Career Day. Officer Magnaye conducted morning business checks on University Boulevard, Carroll Avenue, and in Old Town, and foot patrols on parts of New Hampshire Avenue, Holton Lane, University Boulevard, Flower Avenue and Piney Branch Road. She stood in as crossing guard three days this week. (Police)

**29. Crime Report:** The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (April 20-26, 2012) may be viewed online at [cathylevy.blogspot.com/2012/04/takoma-park-police-department-weekly\\_27.html](http://cathylevy.blogspot.com/2012/04/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_27.html). (Police)

**30. Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 187 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, three vehicle impounds and four arrests from traffic.

*During April 18-26, 2012, the following details were completed:*

**April 18**

- Prince George's Avenue & Belford Drive (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.
- Elm Avenue at Prince George's Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.

**April 20**

- Prince George's Avenue at Elm Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations and one warning.
- Prince George's Avenue at Belford Drive (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.

**April 22**

- Prince George's Avenue & Belford Drive (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- 13th Avenue & Erskine Street (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations and two warnings.
- Prince George's Avenue & Elm Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one warning.

**April 24**

- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State

citations and one warning.

- Erskine Street at 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- Flower Avenue at Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations.

#### **April 25**

- Flower Avenue at Kennebec Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- 13th Place & Erskine Street (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citations and six warnings.
- Prince George's Avenue & Belford Drive (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations and one warning.
- 13th Place & Elm Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and two warnings.
- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a two-hour detail and issued three State citations and five warnings.

#### **April 26**

- Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations. (Police)

#### **31. Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):**

*During the week of April 20-26, the following were completed:*

State Citations Issued: 18

City Citations issued: 1

Safety Equipment Repair Orders: 7

Warnings: 1

Court: 4.5 hours

(Police)